

Setting up of Digital Terrestrial Transmitter in Bangalore

2418. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up digital terrestrial transmitters in the country;

(b) if so, whether digital terrestrial transmitter has been set up in Bangalore; and

(c) if not, when will it be set up in Bangalore?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) At present, Prasar Bharati is proposing to set up four digital terrestrial TV transmitters, in Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai respectively, as an experimental project. Further expansion of the digital terrestrial TV transmitter network of Prasar Bharati will be dependent on the feedback from the experimental project and availability of resources.

FII in Print Media

2419. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has disallowed FII in print media with immediate effect;

(b) if so, whether according to the RBI, the restrictions will apply to investments by NRIs/OCBs on non-repatriation basis;

(c) if so, whether her Ministry has taken up this issue with the concerned authorities;

(d) if so, whether she has received a written assurance from the Mid-day group that it would not accept any kind of foreign investment; and

(e) if so, to what extent Government have clarified this position?

[19 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Necessary directions/clarifications were issued to RBI by the Government that no foreign investment of any kind is permitted in the print media sector.

(d) to (e) The Mid-day Multimedia Limited has informed the Government of their decision not to allocate any shares to FIIs.

Corruption in Doordarshan

†2420. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prasar Bharati has totally failed to check corruption in Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of officers and employees found guilty of corruption and the number of those not punished during the last three years;

(d) whether Government propose to review the functioning of vigilance cell of Prasar Bharati; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Financing of Film Projects by NFDC

2421. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) finance film projects of eminent film makers from time to time;

(b) if so, how many persons from North-East have been given this opportunity till now and of this, how many belong to Assam;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.